28: Grigoriev-171-172 N-5 (1925) 1926 Yakut-1-2
116, 121, 134

"The country visited may be divided into two regions: the plateau on the south, and the mountain chain on the north. A short account of the geology and geomorphology of each will be followed by a description of the soil covering of the whole country visited, both being the results of the investigations carried out by professor A.A. Grigoriev and his assistants in the summer of 1925."

1. Aldan plateau

Beginning with the geology and the geomorphology of the Lena-Aldan plateau it should be mentioned that the plateau owes its name to the river Lena and its largest right tributary the Aldan, and occupies the area limited on the west by the former and on the east and north by the latter The object of the party was to investigate the north western part of this plateau, which has been more than once visited by explorers. They have, however, left but very scanty records of their observations in this country beyond general statements upon the land surface consisting of Quaternary sediments and presenting a very uneven configuration. Such a paucity of records of former investigators is largely due to their having all rapidly traversed the region, in most cases during the winter or early spring, while the ground was still covered with snow and they could travel more expeditiously and comfortably in sledges. [172]

28: Grigoriev--171-172 N-5 (1925) 1926 Yakut-2
116, 121, 134

The author (prof. A. A. Grigoriev) succeeded in traversing the Lena-Aldan plateau in the following directions: 1) from Uly-Ary (on the Lena 40 klm below Yakutsk) to the NNE as far as the Dygdala left shore of the Aldan (opposite the mouth of its tributary the Kel (a distance of 185 klm); 2) from the Aldan, somewhat west of the mouth of the Kel to the N as far as the Tumara (a distance of about 60 klm); 3) from the Dygdala shore to the East as far as the mouth of the Tanda, and 4) from the village of Tanda along the so called old Verkhoyansk post road to the S and SW on the way back to the village of Yarmonka, situated on the right shore of the Lena, opposite Yakutsk."

39: Jochelson E-5 (1888-97) 1906 Yakut

KUMISS FESTIVALS OF THE YAKUT AND THE DECORATION OF KUMISS VESSELS.

BY WALDEMAR JOCHELSON.

121 THE years 1888–97 were passed by me among the Yakut. During the last two years of that period, as a member of the Yakut Expedition fitted out by the Russian Geographical Society, I studied the ethnology of the Yakut of the northern districts of the Yakut Province,—those of Verkhoyansk and Kolymsk. The results of these studies have, up to the present time, been but partly published. During my participation in the Jesup North Pacific Expedition, under the auspices of the American Museum of Natural History of New York, I was engaged in the investigation of the Koryak of the Okhotsk Sea and of the Yukaghir of the Kolyma district. I went to the Yukaghir from the east, across the Stanovoi Mountain ridge, and my way back to Europe and America lay through the country of the Yakut and the whole of Siberia. Professor Boas, the originator of the Jesup Expedition, wished to avail of my knowledge of the Yakut country and tribe, and of my acquaintance there, for the purpose of acquiring a Yakut ethnological collection for the Museum. The Yakut collection gath-
121 ered by me is most extensive. No European museums, not
177 even those of Russia, have at present more than insignificant collections of this interesting tribe,[1] the ancient culture of which is disappearing under the influence of climate, Russian culture, and change or modification in the forms of industry; and in a few years' time it will be difficult to find many objects of their
177 primitive culture. Even now it is not easy to obtain the large ornamented kumiss goblets of wood which are described below. The conical summer dwelling of the old-time Yakut, made of ornamented birch-bark, all parts of which I was able to bring
000 back, is no longer in use. The so-called Palæasiatic Siberian

[1] Of the museums of Europe, that of Leipsig alone has a small Yakut collection, which was bought at the Paris Exposition of 1900.

RV2

/Pages i-iv are title pages./

/v/ Foreword

000 Frequently in the course of the decades just passed the attention of the entire educated world has been directed toward the far north of our globe; in particular the journeys of Nordenskiöld and his companions, crowned by the most magnificent success, and the northeast passage, finally gained by him after centuries of fruitless attempts, have continually turned the eyes of the scholars, as well as those of the laity, to the barren northern shores of the Asiatic continent.

The area of the mouth of the Lena in particular has incessantly preoccupied the European and even more the American press in recent months, since in December, 1881, the first report concerning the shipwrecked landing of the long-lost polar navigator "Jeannette" was transmitted by the Siberian telegraph, and soon afterwards various American expeditions were sent to search for the lost crew and Captain de Long along the lower Lena. Moreover this region has aroused further interest in that in the fall of 1882 one of the polar stations set up by international agreement in accordance with Weyprecht's proposal will start its activity here. This expedition, equipped by the Russian government (the second Russian polar station is on Nówaja-Semljá /Novaya Zemlya/), at whose head stand the gentlemen Captain Jürgens, Dr. Bunge, and Eigner, has already been in /vi/ Irkutsk for some time, from where it is likewise to depart for its destination by going up the Lena.

114 Under such circumstances I consider it to be a good time to
121 publish herewith what I myself have experienced and found in these regions. A large part of the present work was done on the journey itself and only slightly changed later, in order not to lose the freshness of direct impressions.

While the arctic lands readily accessible by ship, such as Spitsbergen and the coasts of Greenland, have often been described and therefore are relatively well known to the public, only a little information about the interior arctic lands of Asia has reached wider circles. The distinguished works by Baron Wrangel and v. Middendorff -- the latter in particular, as a consequence of their considerable scope and corresponding cost --

/vi cont./

114 have become known almost solely in strictly scientific circles,
●121 and thus my publication may fill a substantial gap in the popular-scientific travel literature, in that it substantially supplements Czekanowsky's brief reports already published earlier in the Russian language in the publications of the Imperial Russian Geographical Society and, in part, also in the German language in the "Russischen Revue."

128 The scientific appendices will be acceptable to both the expert and the educated laity. They contain observations which refer to a broader area and, as a consequence of this, could only with difficulty be incorporated in the actual travel account, without unduly breaking the thread of the story.

St. Petersburg, in May, 1882.

F. Müller.

RV2

/1/ Introduction

114 [101] Toward the end of the year 1872, chiefly at the suggestion of the academician Friedrich Schmidt, the Imperial Russian Geographical Society in St. Petersburg decided to send out an expedition to explore the practically completely unknown Lower (níshnaja /nizhnyaya/) Tungúska and Olenék rivers, principally with reference to geology, and chose the geologist Alexander Czekanówsky of Irkutsk, well known through his excellent investigations of the geological conditions of the Irkutsk government and the Baikal Mountains over many years, to carry out this plan. Besides a young man experienced as a collector and preparator, Mr. Ksenshopólsky, a capable topographer from Irkutsk, Mr. [101] Nachwálnych, was to accompany the expedition. Before the departure of the expedition in March of 1873, Czekanówsky, with whom I had frequently undertaken shorter trips, particularly to Lake Kossogól, suggested to me that I, at that time an instructor of mathematics and physics in the government Gymnasium in Irkutsk, also go along on this trip to check the topographical data by means of astronomical observations and to make magnetic observations, which here, /2/ relatively near the Siberian maximum of magnetic intensity, were bound to be of great scientific interest.

[122] Through the good offices of the Geographical Society, I was granted permission by his Excellency the Minister for the Enlightenment of the Masses to take part in this expedition and was also given the necessary funds, and therefore by the middle of May I was able to follow the other gentlemen, whom I joined in the upper part of the Lower Tungúska in the village of Népa. During the first days of September (here, as elsewhere, also in reporting meteorological data, the old style) we reached the Jenisseí /Yenisei/ not far from Turuchansk /Turukhansk/ with rich yields, and, after a prolonged stay in the city of Jenisseísk /Yeniseisk/, we arrived in Irkutsk again at the beginning of November. After I gave up my service connection here at the Gymnasium, we set out from Irkutsk as early as December, this time only Czekanówsky and myself, to carry out the second part of our expedition, the exploration of the Olenék, and we did not return until January, 1875.

121 [114] The following pages contain a description of this latter journey, popularized for the general public. Included are reminiscences of the Tungúska journey and some of the findings of Czekanówsky,

Y /2 cont./

121 who, in the year 1875, again visited the lower part of the Olenék
[114] and the Lena to complete his observations, while at the same time I took part in the surveying of Siberia, likewise started by the Geographical Society.

Y
[126] Since East Siberia, and especially the part under consideration here, is apt to be a complete terra incognita to the foreign reader to an even greater extent than to the Russian, I shall /3/ also add here for better orientation a brief survey of the history, rather uneventful in itself, of this northernmost region of Russia, with reference to the general map of the territory between the Jenisseí and Jana /Yana/ appended to this volume, which, drawn up according to our data, was reproduced by the Imperial Russian General Staff.

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175 The stretches of land of interest to us were discovered by Rus-
648 sian Cossacks in the first half ot the seventeenth century. The
167 city of Mangaséja /Mangazeya/ was founded on the river Tas /Taz/ in Samojeden /Samoyed/ country about the year 1600
[361] under the rule of Czar Boris Fedorovich Godunov. From here the Cossacks soon penetrated to the Jenisseí, founded there in the year 1607 near the mouth of the Turuchán /Turukhan/ River a settlement named after it, to which the entire trade of Mangaséja was later directed, and soon afterwards also discovered the mouths of the Jenisseí and the Pjássida River lying to the east. Spurred on by ambition and also not forgetting their pockets, Cossacks in the following years gradually pushed up the (Lower) Tungúska, emptying into the Jenisseí near Turuchánsk, before them, as Fischer (1) relates, the hunters ("are rovers who band together in

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[113] 1. Johann Eberhard Fischer, Sibirische Geschichte /Siberian History/, St. Petersburg, 1768. 2 vols. The following very characteristic quotations are taken from this work.

order to catch game"). The Lena was reached probably as early as 1620 (even earlier by the hunters) by crossing the watershed, barely 30 versts wide here, from the present village of Podwolótschnaja /Podvoloshnaya/ on the Tunguska and therefore emerging about 50 versts below the present Kirensk.

T
648 This was not accomplished without battle with the resident
721 tribes. Fischer tells about a band /4/ of 189 hunters: "Never-
175 theless they were occasionally sharply rapped on the knuckles

178 the other hand, [201] the possibilities for maximizing profits from
439 the sale in foreign markets of such valuable furs as polar fox are not fully utilized, since on account of their trips transporting loads the carters are compelled to cut down on the number of times they can make the rounds of their traps.

233 In places where there are many fish and wild reindeer--for ex-
262 ample, in Pyasina--domestic reindeer are hardly ever used as food. On the other hand, in places where there is little game, the average family is forced to use a minimum of about forty head and more in the course of a year, especially in the east, where the population hardly uses any grain at all, substituting meat in its place. All parts of the reindeer are used for food, not excluding even the con-
233 tents of the stomach. Reindeer milk is also used as food. [Fig. 18].
234 They milk reindeer from June until Shroud-Day, the holiday called
262 "Pokrov" [Feast of the Protection of the Holy Virgin] (November 14), but there are also some cows without calves which are milked the year round. The milking is done once a day. In the summer they usually milk the reindeer before tea, so as to have milk to pour into their tea, and when they do this they milk with the right hand alone, and with the left hand they hold a mug or an iron bucket under the stream of milk. In winter they freeze the milk and eat it in this solid
233 form, chopped into small pieces. A cow usually gives a half-bucket
291 of thick, tasty milk. For eating purposes they kill only old and sick reindeer; for clothing they kill almost exclusively young reindeer. If a domestic reindeer is used for food during a scarcity of fish and wild game, its hide is much more often used for clothing, at least among the well-to-do, whereas the hide of a wild reindeer, owing to its coarseness, is used only by poor people. We propose to give more detailed information regarding the number of hides which are used by a family in one year for their various needs in a separate work on the clothing of the Dolgan.

321 From reindeer horns are fashioned various small household articles.

In concluding the ethnographic part of my work on reindeer breed-
121 ing among the Dolgan, I make the reservation that consideration of the Dolgan ideology was consciously left out by me; in order to see to what degree the whole religion of the Dolgan is permeated with elements of reindeer breeding, it would be necessary to describe the religion in a very detailed fashion, which is outside the scope of the present sketch. It is much more expedient to give a description of the religion separately in an independent work.